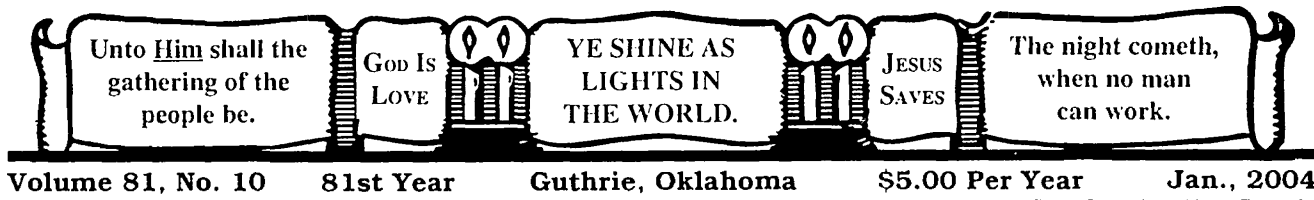


# FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

## Church of God Servant



## WHAT IS YOUR PRICE?

By Bro. Curtis Williams, Jr.

This message was delivered Saturday evening, Jan. 3, 2004, by Bro. Curtis at the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting. Edited and condensed for print by W.E.M.

I'm thankful that God loved you and I enough to be willing to send His Son to die for us. I am very grateful for the blessings of salvation. When you begin to realize what God paid for us, it ought to make you and I feel so indebted to the Lord. I desire your prayers. I have a burden on my heart and I desire the Lord to help us to know how to bring it out.

I would like to begin by asking us a couple of questions. One of the questions would be, "How much would it take for you to betray the Lord?" Or maybe I should word that, "What is the price of your betrayal?" The other question is, "How much do you value this salvation and the privilege of knowing the truth?"

As you ponder those questions I'd like to share with you the thoughts the Lord has laid on my heart. As I was thinking about this message, the Lord brought the title of the little book that

Sis. Margaret Eck wrote to my mind. And the title of that is, *Lest We Forget*. Dear ones, if there is one thing we can't afford to forget, it's the price that Jesus paid for our salvation. We can't afford to forget the instruction that was left us to "keep our heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life." It's very vital for you to remember the price that Jesus paid. When you and I begin to realize the price that He paid, it puts things into their proper perspective.

Sometimes we tend to underestimate the value of salvation because the price was paid for so many souls. But the same price had to be paid regardless if it were millions and millions of people or if it was for one soul. That puts it in a more personal perspective doesn't it? Jesus paid the price for me and He paid it for you and I am very grateful. I don't know how that strikes you, but to me it makes me feel like David of old when he said, "Who am I?"

I would like for you to turn with me to II Samuel 7:18. It said, "Then went king David in, and sat before the Lord, and he said, Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?" David said here, "Who am I?" David did not feel worthy of the blessing that the Lord had bestowed upon him. In my mind, no doubt, David was thinking back to where he came from and the things he had been through, and as he thought upon all that God was doing for him and all that God had

(Continued on page 10.)

### Contents

What is Your Price? .....	1
The King Should Have No Damage .....	2
"O, Come Let Us Adore Him" .....	3
Editorials .....	4
Prayer Requests .....	6
Meeting Reports and Notices .....	6
Letters from the Readers .....	6
Obituaries .....	8
The Family That Prays .....	9
What Is Your Price? Continued .....	10
When The Tempter Comes Oftenest. ....	15
From Glory To Glory .....	16

# THE KING SHOULD HAVE NO DAMAGE

By Bro. Clifford Cole

"It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, *and the king should have no damage.*" (Dan. 6:1-2.) What is meant by the phrase, "No damage?" Does it merely imply, "Subjects, do not trouble the king with all of your little problems?" perhaps. But could it also mean that the king needed to trust his counselors and princes with the overall well-being of the kingdom? The reality of life is that all those in authority can either be helped tremendously or destroyed by those closest to them. Lets explore briefly three examples.

1. King Nebuchadnezzar was deposed from his throne after his heart was lifted up in pride. For seven years the kingdom was entrusted to someone else. The Bible does not tell us who was in charge during that time, but judging from Daniel's modest accounts of other happenings, it could be assumed that Daniel was the man. After the king's mind returned, his counselors and lords again "sought unto him." Daniel was probably the man that set the example for all the other lords and counselors to follow.

2. Joseph proved so trustworthy that Potiphar entrusted everything he had to Joseph. Even when Potiphar's wife tempted him "day by day," Joseph proved faithful. It did not matter who was really right and who was wrong.

3. David suffered many wrongs at the hands of his king. Time after time, though, David's response was, "I will not touch the Lord's anointed!" I Samuel 28 gives another extraordinary account of David's faithfulness to a king. King Achish (a Philistine) said, "I will make thee keeper of mine head for ever." Just like Daniel and Joseph, David looked out for those around him and for those above him.

There are four Biblical instances where we are taught to look out for the good of those who are placed in authority over us:

1. The apostle Paul taught that spiritual leaders and elders in the church are there for our good. We honor God and enable the flow of grace when we respect these offices in the proper manner. Here are two examples: If an

individual became offended at a certain brother and started spreading their grievances to others instead of following the guidelines Jesus laid out in Matthew 18:15-17, how much damage could be done before it was discovered that the original grievance was groundless? Isn't it much better to wait on the Lord to reveal the truth first? On the other hand, what if the offense was factual? If this problem were broadcast far and wide indiscriminately many people could be hurt and the offending brother would not have been given an opportunity to repent. Some could even lose their souls. (There is a Biblical obligation to warn and protect others in a proper, prayerful manner.)

2. Again, Paul taught that God places the leaders of our land. We can rebel against their authority if we choose, but unless we are avoiding the violation of our conscience because the laws of the land are contrary to the laws of God, we tear down respect for ourselves. Consider the Roman centurion who said, "I also am a man under authority...." This Roman had the respect of Jesus and obtained the healing for his servant.

3. "The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life." Prov. 31:11-12. Wives actually have the power to make their husbands a better man. Wives can also hinder or destroy their husband's influence. The old saying, "Behind every good man is a woman" is absolutely true. Sometimes this woman is his mother, but sooner or later the woman behind the good man is his wife. A man's wife knows his heart. She knows his weaknesses. King Ahab was unfortunate to have the wife he did. Queen Jezebel was part of his undoing. Minister's wives (or husbands, if their wife is a minister) play an invaluable part in their ministry. Wives have in their power to do a great amount of damage or good to society, to their homes and to the kingdom of God.

4. Is it necessary for an employee to honor his employer? Once again, the Bible tells us several times in Paul's writings, and also in Peter, to "...be subject to *your* masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward." It could be argued that an em-

ployer is not a master. Very well, at least in modern times we usually do have the option to get another job, but before that happens we are still the one taking orders. While under an employer's authority, what would be the harm in being as great a blessing as possible? Our work environment could be more pleasant, our job more stable, our homes happier, but most importantly of all, God's grace and approval would be on our lives. Is it any wonder that Joseph and Daniel were promoted to be the right hand man to their king?

Of all the examples mentioned, each had (or have) the ability to do great good or great harm in their particular surroundings. Many times, our circumstances are not asked for or desired. Joseph, David and Daniel did not ask to be put in their situation. God trusted them, though, to be faithful in their lot in life. In each of these examples God's plan would have been hindered if these men had not been faithful to make certain that "the king should have no damage."

Who is the "king" in your life that God is calling you to help in some way?



## "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

By Sis. Neta Murphey

When a baby is brought in our midst, have you ever watched how everyone huddles around to admire that newborn? Have you listened to their exclamations of how sweet, how cute, how lovely they are? They are trying to figure out who they look like. Oh the adoration, "She is so sweet; he is so precious."

Christmas Eve, as we were gathered together, we were singing the Christmas carols. In the song, "O Come, All Ye Faithful," the phrase: "O come let us adore Him" stood out to me. The shepherds came to adore this wonderful gift-our infant Savior. Simeon, in the temple, blessed God and said, "For mine eyes have seen thy salvation...and the glory of thy people Israel." The wise men came to worship Him. As we start another year may we rise to the challenge to adore our Christ more and more. I am thankful we too can still come and bow before Him and adore Him.

Have you ever longed for something but could not possess it immediately? Maybe you had to work for it, search for it or just wait for it. Then one day it became a reality. Mankind had been promised a Savior that would redeem Israel. Those that were in the condition to receive Him recognized Him and came to adore Him. Today if we open our hearts to receive Him He will come to live and dwell with us. Then we can sing:

I will adore thee forever;  
Oh live and reign in me!  
Jesus my Savior and keeper,  
Oh help me trust in thee.

When we have asked the Lord to come and reign in us, old things pass away and all things become new. The old life of sin and shame are replaced with peace and happiness. The places and things we once sought pleasure in have now lost their appeal. We now desire those things that will draw us closer to the One that brought us such joy. We then have the desire to show forth a life of peace and purity to the world. We want those around us to know of Christ's love for them. Can we prove to the world we have something they need? Can they see the reflection of Christ in our lives? Is it a delight to sing:

Oh, we love the name of Jesus,  
His salvation we adore,  
Blessed be the name of Jesus;  
We will sing it more and more.

When I look out and see the sunrise, feel the freshness of the morning air, see the splendor of the world around me, the mountains, the fields of ripened grain, the lovely flowers, the birds that sing, the beautiful sunset and the array of stars above, how could I not adore Him! Surely I can say with the Psalmist, "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches." One of these days the Lord will come back again for His people. We want to be ready for that moment. We want to be in that heavenly choir singing.

Hence, evermore!  
His sov'reign majesty  
May we in glory see,  
And to eternity  
Love and adore!

## FAITH AND VICTORY

### 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

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Single copy, one year ..... \$5.00  
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 Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from sin and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

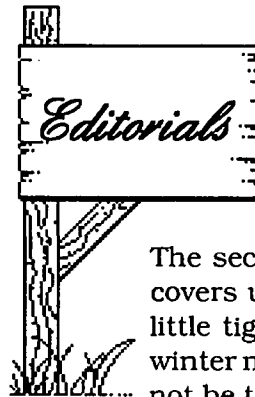
A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

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How many choices will you be making today? From the time your eyes open in the morning you are making choices. Perhaps the first one is to hit the snooze button on the alarm clock.

The second one may be to pull the covers up around your shoulders a little tighter—it is pretty cold these winter mornings. These choices may not be too important if there is time available to allow you to meet your work schedule. Actually, you may have made the choice the night before when you set the alarm to allow for a little extra time to wake up in the morning. But shortly you will be making a choice that is important. Do I pray this morning before I go to work? Will that choice make any difference? The answer to these questions will vary from person to person. One may think, "No, it's not important. It doesn't make any difference anyway. I can handle things myself. I don't need any help." Another may think, "Well, once in awhile if I think I'm going to have a bad day and really need the Lord I will pray." Then another may think, "Yes, I need the Lord to help me every day. I may be making other decisions today that will seriously affect my life and I need Him to help me make the right ones. I don't know what may happen today."

To the Lord who is watching us it is easy to observe who really loves Him. Your priorities in life are indicated by the decisions you make. Many of those choices may seem very insignificant when they are made but they represent a direction and course that you have set in your life that eventually will take you somewhere.

When Joshua was instructing the children of Israel before they went into the Canaan land and to the battle with Jericho, he told them to follow the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God. "...That ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore." Joshua 3:4. We also need to follow the Lord. The path that we take each day may contain unseen dangers that only the Lord can lead us around, neither have we passed this way before. Each day presents challenges that we need the Lord to help us with. One misstep may cause us to suffer much pain and agony that could have easily been avoided by following the way God intended us to go.

The song says, "Had I the choosing of my pathway, In blindness I should go astray, And wander far away in darkness, Nor reach that land of endless day." Our choice should be to follow the Lord and we need to focus our eyes on Him in the morning and not lose sight of Him all day long.

We are passing this way one day at a time. The days are adding into years and the years are counting up rapidly. Our eternal home will one day be determined by the choices we have made today. Shouldn't you stop and pray today?

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods." Joshua 24:15-16.

Thank the Lord for blessing us with His presence at the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting. The Lord directed the messages that came forth and His Spirit worked with the hearts of those present. It was wonderful to see heavy hearts come weeping to an altar of prayer and then return with a smile of joy on their countenance because the Lord met them there and lifted their burden. It is our prayer that those who sought the Lord will endeavor to be faithful to Him for the rest of their life. They will never be sorry for their decision to live for God.

It was refreshing to our spirit to join in the singing of the songs of Zion and experience the sweet Spirit of the Lord and the fellowship of His saints. Our cup is fuller and our joy is greater because of this meeting. Truly we are a blessed people.

Bro. Ed Wilson has left for India to be with the saints in that country. They have scheduled their 39th General Convention to be held in their new tabernacle on January 7-11, 2004. Pray that God will protect him and grant him a safe passage and bless his efforts to work in this far away field of labor. His plans are to return around the 15th of January.

Over an extended period of time the cost of postage and supplies have increased substantially. The costs have reached a point that we feel it would be advisable to increase the subscription price on the *Faith and Victory*, the *Bible Lessons* and the *Beautiful Way* to \$5.00

per year. We are also increasing the rate on tracts to \$5.00 per pound. That price includes shipping on tracts.

Much of our literature is given freely to spread the gospel in prisons and to those in need in this country and in foreign countries. This can only be done by the support of the saints who have a burden to see this work continue. We trust these increases will not work a hardship on any soul who is seeking the Lord but instead will enable us to reach more who are thirsting for the water of life.

We are thankful for how the Lord has wonderfully blessed Sis. Lenita Wall with His healing power. She has been laboring for the Lord in Honduras with her husband, Bro. Doug Wall, and family. She contracted malaria and has been seriously ill but the Lord has intervened in her behalf and at the last report is much improved but is still weak. I'm sure they still desire the prayers of the saints in their behalf.

The *Bible Lessons* and *Beautiful Way* Sunday school materials were mailed in December for the first quarter of 2004. The titles of the *Bible Lessons* are: The Eternal Life Manifested Unto Us, Our Advocate with the Father, Overcoming the World and All Antichrist, Preserved from Deception by the Anointing, Pure as He is Pure, Righteous as He is Righteous, Loving the Brethren in Deed and in Truth, The Peril of False Teachers, Being Made Perfect in Love, The Victory that Overcometh the World, Eternal Life in Believing on the Son of God, The Great Love of the Father, The Blessedness of the Son, The Unspeakable Gift of the Holy Spirit.

It is our prayer that the lessons will be a blessing to the saints. The quarterlies are available for \$1.25 per quarter or \$5.00 per year. If you would like to subscribe let us know and we will be happy to send it to you.

Many will be making plans to attend the camp meetings this summer. Please send in your dates by February 15 so they can be published in the March *Faith and Victory* paper.

As we enter a New Year we are thankful that the presence of the Lord will be with us. With our hand in His we can walk confidently forward on the path that He is leading us. May we each one stay in the center of His will and keep our hearts in tune to the still small voice of His Holy Spirit.

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey  
wemurphey@yahoo.com



CA—I have been ill since June and I now have the flu virus, heart trouble and a badly injured right leg. Please put me on the prayer list. Love in Christ, —Sis. Helen Carson

OR—Please pray for my children and me. Much love, —Sis. Ruby Hutchinson

OR—I would appreciate prayer for my daughter, Cherie. She apparently had a stroke on Thanksgiving Day. She didn't lose the use of her limbs but is weak and unable to keep food down. With Christian love, —Bro. Bill Busch

KS—I thank God for His goodness to me all these years. I am 85 years old. I am blind in the left eye and have muscle degeneration in the right eye. Please pray for me and my dear loved ones. Yours in Christ our precious Lord,

—Sis. Margaret Angle

OK—Continue to remember Bro. T.V. McMillian. The Lord has blessed him but he is still weak in body.



## Standing Prayer Requests

Carlos Arriago  
 Sis. Mamie Butcher  
 Sis. Helen Carson  
 Bro. Hubert Corteway  
 Sis. Waneta Creel  
 Sis. Elaine Dunn  
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson  
 Bro. Troy Gentry  
 Bro. Jeff Gutwein  
 Bro. Robert Hetland  
 Bro. Lee Hilton  
 Bro. Doyle LaCroix  
 The Lounds Sisters  
 Sis. Ruth McMakin  
 Bro. Manuel & Sis. Marie Mitchell  
 Sis. Melba Powell  
 Sis. Anna Severs  
 Sis. Catherine Shaffer  
 The Mitch Taylor family

## MEETING DATES

Ministers' Meeting (Guthrie)—Mar. 5-7

Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 28-June 6



## MEETING NOTICES

### MINISTERS' MEETING NOTICE

Plans are being made for a national ministers' meeting to be held in Guthrie, OK, March 5-7, 2004. This meeting will be for the purpose of prayer, teaching and edification.

Bro. Keith Fuller has agreed to coordinate the preparations for the meeting and requests each minister and spouse to bring to the Ministers' Meeting a book or at least passage of a book, which has been valuable to you in your personal ministry. This book or copy of a passage of a book will be for display. Tables will be set aside for this. The purpose of this will be for sharing resources which might enrich the lives of others. General topics might be Devotional books, Doctrinal Books, Christian Education books, Church history, Family life, the roles of men and women, etc. Your name should be typed or printed on the front of the book or passage. A two to three sentence description of the book contents would be appreciated. For further information contact Bro. Keith Fuller at (330) 864-1128 or (330) 762-2286.

The expenses for this meeting will be met on a freewill basis. Financial support can be directed to Sis. Brenda Wilkins, the Oklahoma State Treasurer. Her address is: 1023 E. Prairie Grove, Guthrie, OK 73044.



LETTERS  
 FROM  
 OUR  
 READERS

KS—Dear Saints: I thank the Lord for being saved and encouraged to live for Him. Recently, I became ill with possibly the flu or asthma or both. At first all I could think of was the worst case scenario—sarcoidosis, an affliction I suffered with 10 years ago. After I finished reading the book by Sis. Margaret Eck, *Lest We Forget*,

I felt encouraged to rebuke the enemy and trust the Lord. Within a week, I was on the road to recovery.

I thank the Lord for His goodness and mercy and for the prayers of the saints.

—Sis. Gertrude Lounds

— — — — —

MO—Dear Ones: I wish to thank the Lord by written word for His love and protection toward us this past year. We had three cars and one S-10 pickup totaled. No other vehicles were involved and no one was injured other than our son, Steven, who had a badly bruised foot and ankle for about a month. We had two deer/vehicle collisions also. About a week before one car was totaled, I was returning home from Thayer and got the right front wheel off the road. The road had no shoulder there. I over steered trying to get back on the road and nearly went off the other side of the road. Thank God there was no other vehicle coming. Then it went back across to the right lane heading straight for a group of mailboxes and a stop sign. I was so intent on steering that I didn't think of taking my foot off the gas. The thought came to me, "take your foot off the gas and your hands off the wheel." The car came to a soft stop in the ditch headed back west. I was not injured and the car didn't have much damage. The right rear tire was flat and the bumper was pushed in. A neighbor had stopped to direct traffic, which thankfully was only one truck which stopped and had a jack and pumped up the tire. Another neighbor pulled the car out of the ditch with his tractor and me and the car went on home. Before the car stopped I told the Lord, "It is up to You." I was accepting whatever happened when it did. When it stopped it was leaning to the right enough to slide my purse over and spill out a little card. On the card was a picture of the sun shining on clouds with the words printed, "The Lord Keeps You Safe." He did! I had to smile.

I wish to thank you dear and precious ones who kept us lifted up to the Lord in prayer. I have felt your prayers and God's love. Don't quit, there is a lot of healing needed yet. Sis. Maxine Busbee's message, *Healing Emotional Wounds* comes to mind. We have much to be thankful for.

Pray that the Lord will strengthen me in spirit and stand me on my feet again.

—Sis. Evelyn Hazelrigg

### From the Philippines...

December 8, 2003—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings of Christian love to you and your family in the name of our Saviour.

I am happy to report to you that we have five pastors who are dedicating their time and efforts by going to our congregations to help them grow and to evangelize the communities. They form the evangelistic team. During the day they contact prospects and make appointments for home Bible studies and in the evening they have evangelistic services in the chapel. They stayed in Llanera for several days and before they left they baptized 23 precious souls. This afternoon they went to Gandrig, Pantabangan and plan to stay there also for several days, but they will be going back to Llanera two times a week to take care of the new converts and to continue their appointments of home Bible studies.

We have scheduled our Thanksgiving and Fellowship Meeting on December 26-28, 2003. We hope for more brothers and sisters this time to come. Please pray for this gathering that it may become a day of feasting for souls on the Word of God and may we have a rich experience of the glory of God. May it also bind our hearts with love and unity.

Please pray for my health. My blood sugar level is very high. Sometimes I feel weak and it also affects my vision. However, I am doing my best to accomplish my work and I am ready to spend my time to serve Him who died for me until my last breath.

Please tell all the saints there that we are so thankful for all of your sacrifices for us.

Your brother in the gospel field,

—Matias S. Tanguan

— — — — —

December 29, 2003/January 6, 2004—Dear Bro. Willie: With gladness in my heart, I thank God for your inspiring and encouraging letter. My daughter Arlene printed a copy of your letter to me and we passed it on to our brothers and sisters here in Muntinlupa Church of God congregation. Oh how we loved to hear from you!

Bro. Willie, we prayed earnestly for Bro. Doug and Sis. Lenita Wall. We asked the Lord for His healing power for Sis. Lenita. We trust that His goodness and mercy will be upon her so that they can carry on the gospel work in Honduras in accordance to His will. There are so many souls who need to be reached and we praise God there are saints who are dedicating

their lives for the cause of Christ, who gave His life for our redemption.

We believe that God has a purpose in everything that's happening to us. With God beside us and with His guidance we pray that we may continue to live and work faithfully for Him until the end. With deep gratitude and appreciation in our hearts we thank God for His leading and His blessings as you carry on the work at the Print Shop. Your work there is an inspiration to us as we continue to follow the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With thankfulness to God may I say that we are all blessed for the wonderful fellowship we had at the camp meeting in Lomboy, San Jose City (December 26-28, 2003.) Four souls were baptized into Christ and one of them is added to His church here in Muntinlupa. She is Sis. Mariz. Please continue to pray for our work in winning souls to Christ. May God continue to bless our plans for His Church.

Bro. Willie, my husband arrived yesterday from Saudi Arabia. We thank God for your prayers. His overtime pay and his benefits were not given, but we believe that God will take care of all our obligations. He always provides and gives solutions to our problems when we give them to Him. My children and our brethren here are all glad and we praise and thank God my husband came home at last. As we start our gospel work in Cavite, a province nearby Metro Manila, we trust God will be pleased for my husband's decision to give his time for soul winning. We have a couple in Cavite who are members of the Lord's church there. We ask for your continuous prayer that as we face new trials and challenges in our labor we will remain strong and faithful to Him until we reach that place prepared for His children. May we see each other again someday. We pray that you can visit us again.

We love all you dear saints and God bless you. Your sister,  
—Nellie T. Tibayan

#### SPEAK WELL OF OTHERS

An old lady, who was never known to speak an unkind word of anyone, was exhorting her grandchildren when one of them said:

"But, grandma, dear, you could never say a good word about the devil."

The old lady thought a minute and replied: "If we were only half as industrious as he, it would be well for us."  
—Selected



**Joe Lejska** was born May 3, 1925 in Belmont, OK to Joseph Lejska and Justina Simecek. He passed from this life on December 17, 2003 at his home in Shawnee, OK at the age of 78 years with a clear testimony of salvation.

Bro. Joe grew up on a farm with his parents who were from Czechoslovakia. He was raised knowing how to speak in the native tongue of his parents. Although he was not a farmer by profession he almost always had a garden.

He worked for the Oklahoma State Highway Department as a Construction Survey Engineer for 25 years. He retired when he was 55 years old so that he would be able to take care of his ailing father.

On July 4, 1991, he was united in marriage to Shirley Marie (Washburn). The couple shared a concern and love for ill and needy people and often spent time and effort upon them.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Marie Lejska of the home; one niece, Cordelia Nichols of Shawnee; and 2 great nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents and his two sisters, Annie and Augusta.

Funeral services were held at Resthaven Funeral Home in Shawnee, OK on December 20 with Bro. Ed Wilson and Bro. Michael Smith officiating.

To be busy is not wrong. It all depends on what you are busy about. To be busy about a thing that causes you to neglect your duty to God is sin. It is the sin of omission. Your duty is to do God's will and not what might be pressing upon you. We need have a care lest the cares of life press harder upon us than the promptings of the Holy Spirit.  
—Selected



# THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS

By Bro. Toney and Sis. Jeanie Samons

We all know that there is an attack upon the family unit in our society today. The Christian world is very concerned that, in the near future, we might not even be able to be identified as a family as we know it now. We cannot imagine what the future holds when we see the degeneration of the family unit in the last decade. So, thus, we need to take seriously something that God has entrusted to us to preserve because it is the backbone of a successful society.

God saw that it was not good for man to be alone so he gave him a wife. (Gen. 2:18.) When God created the plan, He intended it to be a good one, a plan that would work. True, Adam and Eve thwarted the plan somewhat and God chastened them. He still set up a plan for the family from the beginning of time that He could use in establishing a world that could be procreated from family units and flourish. From this loving unit of man and wife God planned for them to create children, "an heritage from the Lord," Psalm 127:3. This heritage means a "gift" from God, something wonderful that He has given us.

In the New Testament, after Christ came, an even better plan was perfected so that this family unit could be enhanced with salvation and the man and the wife be "heirs together of the grace of life." I Peter 3:7.

If all is done as the Word of God instructs us to do: such as a loving and trusting relationship between man and wife and the gift of children received and cherished and nourished and "brought up in the fear and admonition of the Lord," the world is blessed with a solidity that makes a society and a church that is healthy and able to do the work that God intended.

So we must cherish this plan and try to perfect it as God gives us insight into how to do this. As we see the world abusing this plan, we must work harder to make it work by the grace of God working through our families.

The strength of the home is the father, who is instructed in the Scripture to be the "head of the house," which meant when the scripture was written, that he was someone that the family looked to as their strength, one who is sound in judgment and can be trusted to live a life that is spiritual so that the family will prosper from it. He is blessed by the wife, who is a "help meet," meaning that he cannot do without her. It does not mean that she is lesser

than her husband, but that her intuition and emotional stability rounds out a perfect two-some to make up a household that is solid, loving and given to a focus of right things, consistently teaching the household things that will make them strong, not only in spirituality, but in work ethic and application of good in daily living. When this is done, those children carry on that plan into another family unit when they marry and procreate, and thus the world grows into what God intended it to be.

But if we consider the above, in the world we live in today, we can clearly see that this world comes far short of it. We are in need of instruction on how to preserve the love in the home and how to put into practice the things that God intended a family to practice. We, as a society, have evolved into people who are living in units of selfishness, not willing to give to each other, thus causing the emotional instability of today's family, which is greatly lacking in the beauty of the original plan.

How this should make us, as Christian people, apply ourselves to the perfecting of this beautiful plan that God set up to bless the world. How can we do that? First of all by realizing that there is no way for any of us to avoid being in this plan that God created. Everyone of us is a part of it by being a father, mother, son or daughter. So we all have something to contribute to the success of the family unit. The next step is to realize that, because of that, it is God's will that we apply ourselves seriously to the plan of the family. When we have learned to love, support and give, we are then contributing to the world, making it a better place by producing people that are able to pass on these same attributes to the next generation and the next. That is preservation and what we need to aim at in this modern world that is fast sliding into a degradation that cannot be restored.

Perhaps, in this column, we can address some of the specific needs of the family that will challenge us all to cherish it and make it work. If you have some special interest or need that you would like to see addressed in this column then contact Bro. Willie at the Faith Publishing House or contact us at [toneysamons@yahoo.com](mailto:toneysamons@yahoo.com).

We do pray that God will give us each one the wisdom to know how to accept this challenge in our time.

## WHAT IS YOUR PRICE?

(Continued from page 1.)

promised him, no doubt he said, "Lord, who am I?" "I'm not worthy of these." When I look back in my life and I see the things God has done for me, I feel the same way. Very unworthy! Very undeserving of what God has done.

If you look above in this chapter you find that David was designated to build a house for the ark of God. And the Lord looked down and saw his heart. And so He sent Nathan the

prophet along with a message for David and he said to him, "I will bless you and establish your kingdom forever." And then this is where David said it, "Then went king David in, and sat before the Lord, and he said 'Lord, who am I?'" Do you ever sit before the Lord and ask the Lord, "Who am I?" It reminds me of the chorus of a very familiar song that says, "Who am I that a King would bleed and die for, who am I that He would pray not My will Thine Lord, The answer I may never know, why He ever loved me so, but to that old rugged cross He'd go, for who am I?"

We need to get apart and set before the Lord and ask Him, "Lord, who am I?" "Lord, what is it about me that caused You to pay such a supreme sacrifice for my soul?" If you're saved, I want to ask you, "How often do you thank the Lord for your salvation? How often do you thank the Lord for the privilege of knowing the truth?" If you have been raised in the truth, I want to ask you, "How often do you thank the Lord for that?"

David said, "Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?" Now I realize that God is a very merciful God and that He is faithful to deal with souls, but when I think about what a difference it would have made if I had been raised in a family in Afghanistan under the Talaban. If I had been raised in Iraq or Iran or in a Hindu family in India or in one of the tribes of the jungles of Africa, do you realize what a difference it would have made? It's not that I was raised in poverty, but even if I had been raised the son of a president or if I had been raised in one of the wealthiest homes in this land, what a difference it would have made. I often think about what a difference there was in just the boy

next door and myself. As I think about the neighbor boy from time to time, what a contrast there was in the privilege and the opportunity that he had versus what I had. I was a minister's son and grew up going to settings like this. Hearing the gospel go forth I listened and I heard the teaching of the saints. I was taught about the Lord at home and went to service. Yet, on the other hand, this boy grew up in a family where

his brothers were in and out of jail and prison. He roamed the neighborhood and

**Do you ever sit before the Lord  
and ask the Lord, "Who am I?"**

it seemed like he had free rein of what he wanted to do. And to my knowledge, he never darkened the door of a chapel. I've wondered different times where he is at today? Is he alive? What kind of situation is he in?

And then I think about the children that are in our world today. Many of them are like the man that I knew. He was a very loose man. He had lived with different women and he got a call one day and the lady told him, "We're fixing to have a child and it's yours." This lady had since gone back to her husband and he was with another lady. The husband of this lady told her, "When the child is born, if you bring it into this house, I'll kill it." She knew that he meant it, so she went out and searched and found someone to buy it on the black market. She made all these arrangements and they were there the day that she was in the hospital having the child and someone tipped off the father. He went to the hospital and I won't go through all of the story but it was quite a ruckus. And needless to say, he ended up with the child that he really didn't want. He took it into his home. He said, "I don't know anything about raising a child." He was living with another lady and she didn't want the child and because of other things he ended up losing his job. I've thought about this time after time and it haunts me to think of the opportunity that the child will have. It causes me to think, "Lord, who am I? Who am I and what is my family?" What is it that allowed me to have the privilege that you and I have to know the truth? To be in a place where God will deal with my heart. I also think of all the blessings that He has bestowed upon me and I'm very grateful.

Sometimes I hear people say, "Well this preacher or that preacher, or the Sunday school

teacher is so boring I just can't go to church." "The congregation has this problem and that problem; if it wasn't for that I could live for the Lord." When I hear those excuses, do you know what comes to my mind? These things that I just related and I think of what it will be like to stand at the judgment bar of God—to stand before the Lord and all these kind of people. Don't you know those kind of things will be silenced very quickly? Those who had no knowledge of the truth as you and I know it; as they're standing before God and I know God is faithful to deal with their hearts, but I can almost hear them as they listen to those excuses and say, "Give me the most boring preacher that you have. If I would have just had that, no doubt I would have been saved." Oh Lord, help us this evening. I wonder if we really realize the blessings and the privileges that we have in serving the Lord.

I have told the folks at home different times how grateful I am for the walls of salvation. Do you know those walls of salvation protect us from so much. But yet they offer us such a great reward and such blessings that sometimes we take it for granted. God has given us so much. David went on in the twenty-first verse and said, "For thy word's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things, to make thy servant know them. Wherefore thou art great, O Lord God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears." David realized that God didn't have to do this but he said "it was in thy heart."

When you sit down before the Lord and begin to inquire of the Lord, "Lord why?" "Lord, who am I that You would do this?" As we meditate upon those things it ought to cause songs and praises of gratitude to rise up in our hearts. It's no wonder that David had so many songs of praise to God because he had the perspective of, "Lord, who am I?" I believe if you and I spend more time before the Lord inquiring of Him, "Lord, why do I deserve those kind of blessings?" it will automatically cause to come from our heart songs of gratitude.

As I was thinking about this, some songs came into my mind. One of them was, "The love of God it reaches far above, it reaches to the

highest star and to the lowest hell." When you begin to recognize the love of God and what it does—He looks down and sees a soul that's in sin, that's full of hatred, bitterness, strife and all kinds of lives that have been lived. And the Lord looks down in His love and says, "I'll take that heart and I will clean it with the blood that I shed. I will purge it and set them upon a rock and establish their going?" Oh what a mighty God we serve! Sometimes we sing the song, *How Great Thou Art*. "When I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made." Do you see the things that God has made? What for? They are not just out there. He made it for our comfort and our blessings. All of these things, the beauty of nature, He created for you and me that we might enjoy the blessings of salvation and that we might recognize the power and omnipotence of our God. I think of song number 103, *There is Not a Friend like Jesus*. Somebody read a verse of that. It says, "There is not a friend like Jesus. In the trying scenes of life," Do you have any trying scenes? "He can hear the heart's faint whisper." You don't have to go to the mountains and shout it. When you get to the place you can't tell anybody and you can't even let anybody know what you're going through, the Lord can hear the heart's faint whisper and calm the tempest's raging strife. "There is not a friend like Jesus; Trust Him ev'rywhere you go; He has trod the way before you, Suffered ev'ry pain and woe. There is not a

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friend like Jesus; When you draw your life's last breath;" You know, every one of us are going

to do that. You and I are going to come to the place that we are going to draw our last breath. "There is not a friend like Jesus, what a blessed tho't to be. Folded in His arms of power, Ever in eternity! There is not a Friend like Jesus, patient, tender, kind and true; If you'll be a friend of Jesus," this song says, "He will be a friend to you." I believe that the Lord wants to be a friend to us.

When you see what a friend Jesus is, so patient, so tender, so kind and so true, when you realize what a privilege it is to know the Lord—to know the truth, to experience the blessings of salvation, can you not see why I

said that you cannot afford to forget the price He paid for our salvation? When I realize how much it's worth, how valuable it is, I begin to think that there is nothing, there is absolutely nothing that is worth trading it for. It is hard to imagine that anyone would take something so precious and just throw it away—to turn their back on such a Friend and betray Him. But I'd like to look at someone that did. Turn with me to Matthew the 26th chapter and starting at the 45th verse it says, "Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands

of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me. And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the

twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast." Judas did. Judas betrayed the Lord. Judas betrayed this Friend we have been talking about. Judas walked where Jesus walked, he ate what Jesus ate and he slept where He slept. Judas heard all the same teachings the other disciples heard and yet in spite of all that, he betrayed Him. In the 49th verse it says, "And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him." Jesus called Judas a friend. Now I don't know what your definition of a friend is, but somehow this just doesn't strike me as the idea of a friend. But Jesus said, "Friend, wherefore comest thou? Wherefore art thou come? What is it that you want? It must mean a lot to you to do what you are doing. It must mean a terrible lot—I don't even know the words to describe what this must mean to you, Judas, for you to do what you are doing. Wherefore friend have you come?" I want to ask you, "Do you think that Judas realized how far this would go?" I don't think so. Look in Matthew the 27th chapter and the first verse. It says, "When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel

against Jesus to put him to death: And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor. Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself." As I look at this, it doesn't strike me as something that went according to plan. It says in the 3rd verse, "Then Judas,

which had betrayed him, when he saw," when he realized too late what he had done, he was sorry. He realized

Jesus called Judas a friend. Now I don't know what your definition of a friend is, but somehow this just doesn't strike me as the idea of a friend.

too late what he had done he couldn't undo. The thirty pieces of silver that he got for betraying the Lord didn't look like much then. In fact, it didn't mean anything to him at all. This 5th verse said, "He cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself." He cast it down. I want to ask, "What are the things you would betray the Lord for?" When you come to the place where you realize too late that you can't undo it, "What is the value of those things?" I can tell you at that moment you'll cast it all down. Judas, it said, went out and he hanged himself. What a waste! What a waste! When you look at the price that Jesus paid, when you look at all He did for Judas and it was all wasted. He went out and hung himself.

I'd like to turn back just a little bit and look at what Judas actually did. What happened that caused this? I'm sure it started a long time before this, but this was the turning point in Judas's life. In Mark the 14th chapter and starting at the 3rd verse it said, "And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor.

And they murmured against her. And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her. And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them. And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him."

It started out here as just a simple meal. We have those quite often, don't we, yet it was a turning point in Judas' life. He put something into motion that he could not control. Judas allowed something to get started here, the ball started rolling and he couldn't stop it. I want to say to us, "Lord, have mercy! Be careful! Be careful of the emotions, be careful of the attitudes, be careful of the things you allow to get working in your life, because once they get going they reach a point where you have no more control over it."

I was talking to a man one time and he told me he got involved in something and when he got involved in it he said he had no idea that he would go as far as he did. He said once he got in

it began to go and it was like a force that began to carry him. He said it just went, it seemed like, of it's own ac-

cord. He was almost powerless to stop it. The force and the power of the thing that got hold of him just carried him along. That is how many people get into trouble and they get in deeper and deeper. That is why sin will take you farther. It is because once you allow some of these things to start rolling, there's no power that you have that can stop it. Unless the Lord intervenes it will take you to eternity.

As I look at this lesson I doubt very seriously that any of these people realized what was being set loose at this point. I doubt very seriously if even Judas realized what was being set loose. In this 4th verse it said, "There were some that had

indignation within themselves." I wonder how many times since that point that Judas had wished that he had ten thousand bottles of that ointment to pour on Jesus' feet. I'm sure he longed for the opportunity to go back and get another bottle and pour it there, but it was too late. All for a little envy, a little covetousness, a little revenge and he betrayed the Lord.

This 10th verse says, "And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them. And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him." Even if Judas really didn't intend for it to go as far as it went, the enemy made sure that there were others that were right there, that were more than glad to take it farther. You may not intend to go as far as or take something as far as you think it will go. But I can assure you, the enemy will have others that will be more than glad to take it to another height, to another depth. All they need is someone to get it started, to start the ball rolling.

Look at what Judas did. Matthew the 26th chapter and the 48th verse says, "Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him." Judas didn't do like the others did. He didn't spit upon Him. He didn't revile Him. He didn't mock Him. He didn't strike Him, and somehow in my mind, I don't

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think he even desired to. I don't think he wanted to. But what he did do, he kissed Him

and allowed those who wanted to destroy Jesus the opportunity to take Him. And Jesus let him do it. I wonder, "Lord, have we given the enemy the opportunity in our lives to work?" I wonder if there is anyone here that has been like Judas? You wouldn't have gone out and betrayed someone. And you wouldn't have treated someone with such utter contempt and disdain and just really rallied against them. But when something happens—maybe that person does something that you don't like and you know just the person to say it to. I wouldn't do it myself, but I know if I go over here and tell this person that's unsaved, it'll all be taken care of. I know if there

is a problem in the congregation or there's a problem with the pastor and maybe something I don't like, I know just the person to go to. All I've got to do is just happen to mention something and they'll just fly off the handle. They'll be the one to take care of it. And they'll go the length, but I wouldn't do that. That is what Judas did. Judas would never have crucified the Lord, but he made it possible for the enemy to get something started—something that couldn't be stopped. It says here, "Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss." How do you betray someone? Do you give them a kiss? Do you come up to them and hug them? I wonder if for a little envy, for a little revenge you and I have said something about someone else that caused them to be betrayed? I wonder if there is someone here that knew something about someone and they wouldn't go out and just tell it all themselves, but something happened that caused them to be offended at that person and so they just "happened" to mention this little thing that happened? And it spread like wildfire. That is what Judas did. Lord, help us.

In Matthew the 26th chapter the 21st verse says Jesus was speaking to the disciples here before this happened and it said, "And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?" I wonder if the Lord were standing here looking over this assembly as I'm looking over it, if the Lord would say one of you will betray Me, how would we feel? It would be a solemn time wouldn't it? To have the Lord stand here and look every one of us in the eye and then say, "One of you will betray Me." Do you think we would do like the disciples and say, "Lord, is it I?" I would want to do that, wouldn't you? "Lord, is it I? Is there something I'm going to do that would cause You to be betrayed?" It goes on here and says, "And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had

not been born." Now notice this 25th verse, "Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said." They all asked him, even Judas.

Now when we started out I asked you that question, "What's the price of your betrayal? How much would it take for you to betray the Lord? How much do you love your salvation? How much are you thankful for the privilege and the opportunity that Christ has made for you?" If you are not saved you have already answered that question. It doesn't mean very much. You say, "Oh no, it means much to me." But I'm

How much would it take for you to betray the Lord? How much do you love your salvation?

going to tell you there's something that's more important. There's something that's more

valuable than this plan of salvation. You've traded it for something else. If you're here and your saved, what is the price of your betrayal? You know the world says everyone has a price. But I want to ask you, is there a price, is there a point that you would come to that you would betray the Lord? I'm sure that, no doubt, everyone of us would say, "Now I would never do that" and I would hope that would be our answer. But as you are pondering this I want to read another scripture to you. Matthew the 25th chapter and the 40th verse says, "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethern, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

I would never betray the Lord. I would never go to the extent that would cause my Saviour to be crucified. But it said the King shall answer and say unto them, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethern, ye have done it unto me." That is a sobering thought. Are there any Judas's here? As you ponder the answer to the question, I want you to think seriously. Maybe you have a great love and appreciation for what God has done for us. Maybe you're not saved, but you really do thank the Lord that He came and died. But because of something else in your life, dealings with someone else, you've decided "I'm not going to live for the Lord." Because

something has come up that caused bitterness in your heart, envy in your heart, because of pride or something that has caused you to go out and do something else. I want to ask you, "Are you betraying your Saviour? Are you a Judas?" Lord have mercy upon us.

In my mind I have always thought of Judas as one of the worst characters there was, but he really didn't do all that much. He didn't kill anybody that we know of, he didn't strike the Lord, he didn't do a lot of things people are doing in our world today, but what he did was allow something down in his heart that allowed the enemy to use him to betray the Lord. I don't know what your situation is, but have you allowed something into your heart that has kept you from making this commitment, "Lord, I love you more than life itself. I love you more than anything else Lord. I am willing to lay down my life for you?" If you haven't come to that, there's something that you have permitted into your heart that will allow the enemy to work through

you. You say, "Well I haven't done anything that you mentioned and betrayed others and my brother or sister." I'm going to tell you if you haven't allowed the Lord into your heart you've allowed something else there and you have no idea how far it will go. If you stay in the condition that you are in, the enemy will see to it that there are those who are glad to help you to go farther, deeper into sin, doing things that you would have never imagined that you would do. My burden is don't be a Judas! Don't allow it to go to the point that you finally throw up your hands in despair and say, "There's no hope. I've gone too far and I can't turn back." Instead of being a Judas, be a Peter. I would plead with you to fall on your knees and weep as Peter did. Don't be a Judas and go out into eternity and waste everything that your Lord paid for you. Would you look into your heart? Is there something you have allowed into your heart that's keeping you from going all the way with the Lord? Lord, help us!



### When the Tempter Comes Oftenest

The tempter comes oftenest where the temptation has not been completely put away and where there is lack of decision against it. Many people are like the drunkard. He desires to cease drinking, but says, "Just one more drink; then I am done." When that has been taken he says, "One more, only one; then I am forever done with strong drink." Such a determination will never loose him from the binding fetters.

The one who is bound by an evil habit or has yielded to the fascinations of an alluring spirit must make a positive, definite decision, in every way possible turn from the temptation, and call upon God for help with a faith that will not waver; then deliverance is sure to come and grace to be an overcomer.

No matter what your sin is or has been, you can have deliverance and peace that the world cannot understand. A firm decision and trust in God will take you through by His grace. When trials come, tell the Lord about them, "casting all your cares upon him, for he careth for you." Oh the riches of His grace, the power of His love! There is an abundance in the great storehouse of our heavenly Father subject to our petitions, and He offers His heavenly riches freely and His blessings to be poured out without measure.

—Bro. E. E. Byrum

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# “FROM GLORY TO GLORY.”

By Frances Ridley Havergal

I Corinthians 3:18

“From glory unto glory!” Be this our joyous song,  
As on the King’s own highway we bravely march along!  
“From glory unto glory!” O word of stirring cheer!  
As dawns the solemn brightness of another glad New Year.

Our own beloved Master “hath many things to say;”  
Look forward to His teaching, unfolding day by day;  
To whispers of His Spirit, while resting at His feet,  
To glowing revelation, to insight clear and sweet.

“From glory unto glory!” Our faith hath seen the King  
We own His matchless beauty, as adoringly we sing  
But He hath more to show us! O thought of untold bliss!  
And we press on exultingly in certain hope to this: —

To marvellous outpouring of His “treasures new and old,”  
To largess of His bounty, paid in the King’s own gold,  
To glorious expansion of His mysteries of grace,  
To radiant unveilings of the brightness of His face.

“From glory unto glory!” What great things He hath done,  
What wonders He hath shown us, what triumphs He hath won!  
We marvel at the record of the blessings of the year!  
But sweeter than the Christmas bells rings out His promise clear—

That “greater things,” far greater, our longing eyes shall see!  
We can but wait and wonder what “greater things” shall be!  
But glorious fulfillments rejoicingly we claim,  
While pleading in the power of the All-prevailing Name.

“From glory unto glory!” What mighty blessings crown.  
The lives for which our Lord hath laid His own so freely down!  
Omnipotence to keep us, Omniscience to guide,  
Jehovah’s Triune Presence within us to abide!

The fullness of His blessing encompasseth our way;  
The fullness of His promises crowns every brightening day;  
The fullness of His glory is beaming from above,  
While more and more we realize the fullness of His love.

“From glory unto glory!” Without a shade of care,  
Because the Lord who loves us will every burden bear;  
Because we trust Him fully, and know that He will guide,  
And know that He will keep us at His beloved side.

“From glory unto glory” Though tribulation fall,  
It cannot touch our treasure, when Christ is all in all!  
Whatever lies before us, there can be naught to fear,  
For what are pain and sorrow when Jesus Christ is near?

“From glory unto glory!” O marvels of the word!  
“With open face beholding the glory of the Lord,”  
We, even we (O wondrous grace!) “are changed into the same,”  
The image of our Saviour, to glorify His Name.

Abiding in His presence, and walking in the light,  
And seeking to “do always what is pleasing in His sight,”  
We look to Him to keep us all glorious within,  
Because “the blood of Jesus Christ is cleansing from all sin.”

The things behind forgetting, we only gaze before,  
From glory unto glory, “that shineth more and more,”  
Because our Lord hath said it, that such shall be our way,  
(O splendor of the promise!) “unto the perfect day.”

“From glory unto glory!” Our fellow-travelers still  
Are gathering on the journey! the bright electric thrill  
Of quick instinctive union, more frequent and more sweet,  
Shall swiftly pass from heart to heart in true and tender beat.

And closer yet, and closer the golden bonds shall be,  
Enlinking all who love our Lord in pure sincerity;  
And wider yet, and wider shall the circling glory glow,  
As more and more are taught of God that mighty love to know.

Oh, ye who seek the Saviour, look up in faith and love,  
Come up into the sunshine, so bright and warm above!  
No longer tread the valley, but clinging to His hand,  
Ascend the shining summits, and view the glorious land.

Our harp-notes should be sweeter, our trumpet-tones more clear,  
Our anthems ring so grandly, that all the world must hear!  
Oh, royal be our music, for who hath cause to sing  
Like the chorus of redeemed ones, the Children of the King!

Oh, let our adoration for all that He hath done  
Peal out beyond the stars of God, while voice and life are one!  
And let our consecration be real, and deep, and true;  
Oh, even now our hearts shall bow, and joyful vows renew!

“In full and glad surrender we give ourselves to Thee,  
Thine utterly and only, and evermore to be!  
O Son of God, who lovest us, we will be Thine alone,  
And all we are, and all we have, shall henceforth be Thine own!”

Now onward, ever onward, from “strength to strength” we go,  
While “grace for grace” abundantly shall from His fullness flow,  
To glory’s full fruition, from glory’s foretaste here,  
Until His Very Presence crown our happiest New Year!